

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the originally-filed Abstract with the substitute Abstract attached to this document on a separate sheet of paper.

Please amend paragraphs [0002] and [0004] as follows:

[0002] There are in the prior art webbing retractors equipped with a pretensioner mechanism and a sensor lock mechanism (~~see, for example, Patent Document 1~~). The pretensioner mechanism takes-up a webbing by being operated at the time of an emergency of a vehicle. At the time when the sensor lock mechanism senses that the pull-out acceleration of the webbing has become greater than or equal to a predetermined acceleration, the sensor lock mechanism is operated and locks the pulling-out of the webbing.

[0004] However, ~~as described above~~, the sensor lock mechanism is operated at the time when the sensor lock mechanism senses that the pull-out acceleration of the webbing has become greater than or equal to the predetermined acceleration. Therefore, the webbing is pulled-out from after the operation of the pretensioner mechanism until the operation of the sensor lock mechanism.

~~Patent Document 1: Japanese National Publication No. 10-500648~~

Problems to be Solved by the Invention:

Please amend paragraphs [0006] and [0007] on page 2 as follows:

~~Means for Solving the Problems~~

Summary of the Invention:

[0006] A The webbing retractor recited in claim 1 of the invention comprises: a rotating member by which, due to the rotating member being rotated in a take-up direction, a webbing is taken-up, and by which, due to the rotating member being rotated in a pull-out direction,

the webbing is pulled-out; a pretensioner mechanism which, by being operated, rotates the rotating member in the take-up direction; and an engaging member which, at a time of operation of the pretensioner mechanism, is changed from a non-engageable state in which the engaging member cannot engage with the rotating member to an engageable state in which the engaging member does not engage with the rotating member to which rotational force in the take-up direction is applied and engages with the rotating member to which rotational force in the pull-out direction is applied, the engaging member impeding rotation of the rotating member by engaging with the rotating member.

[0007] In ~~the~~ such a webbing retractor ~~recited in claim 1~~, the engaging member is set in a non-engageable state and cannot engage with the rotating member. Further, due to the pretensioner mechanism being operated, the rotating member is rotated in the take-up direction and the webbing is taken-up.

Please amend paragraphs [0011] through [0018] on pages 3 and 4 as follows:

[0011] A The webbing retractor of the invention may further comprise ~~recited in claim 2 comprises, in the webbing retractor recited in claim 1~~: an urging component for urging the engaging member toward the engageable state; and a moving member which, by engaging with the engaging member, sets the engaging member in the non-engageable state, and, due to the moving member being moved due to operation of the pretensioner mechanism, engagement of the moving member with the engaging member is released and the engaging member is changed to the engageable state by the urging component.

[0012] ~~In the webbing retractor recited in claim 2, the~~ The urging component urges the engaging member toward the engageable state. Due to the moving member engaging with the engaging member, the engaging member is set in the non-engageable state. Here, the moving member is moved due to the operation of the pretensioner mechanism. In this way, the engagement of the moving member with the engaging member is released, and the engaging member is changed to the engageable state by the urging component. Therefore, the engaging member can be changed from the non-engageable state to the engageable state by a simple structure.

[0013] A The webbing retractor of the invention may further comprise ~~recited in claim 3 comprises, in the webbing retractor recited in claim 1:~~ a moving/urging member which, by being moved due to operation of the pretensioner mechanism, urges the engaging member and changes the engaging member from the non-engageable state to the engageable state.

[0014] ~~In the webbing retractor recited in claim 3, due~~ Due to the moving/urging member being moved by operation of the pretensioner mechanism, the moving/urging member urges the engaging member and changes the engaging member from the non-engageable state to the engageable state. Therefore, the engaging member can be changed from the non-engageable state to the engageable state by a simple structure.

[0015] ~~In a webbing retractor recited in claim 4, in the webbing retractor recited in any one of claims 1 through 3, the~~ The engageable state of the engaging member is may be maintained after operation of the pretensioner mechanism.

[0016] ~~In the webbing retractor recited in claim 4, the engageable state of the engaging member is maintained after operation of the pretensioner mechanism.~~ Therefore, at the time when rotational force in the pull-out direction is applied to the rotating member, the engaging member can reliably engage the rotating member.

[0017] A The webbing retractor of the invention may also comprise ~~recited in claim 7 comprises:~~ a webbing applied to a vehicle occupant; a pretensioner mechanism, the webbing being taken-up due to the pretensioner mechanism being operated; and a maintaining component for, after conclusion of operation of the pretensioner mechanism, maintaining a load, which is applied from the webbing to the vehicle occupant, at the load at a time of the conclusion of operation of the pretensioner mechanism.

[0018] ~~In the webbing retractor recited in claim 7, the webbing is applied to a vehicle occupant.~~ The webbing is may be taken-up due to operation of the pretensioner mechanism.

Please amend paragraphs [0020] and [0021] on page 4 as follows:

[0020] A The invention also includes a webbing retracting method comprising the steps of recited in claim 13 comprises: taking-up a webbing by operating a pretensioner mechanism; and at a time of operation of the pretensioner mechanism, changing an engaging member from a state in which pulling-out of the webbing cannot be impeded to a state in which taking-up of the webbing is permitted and pulling-out of the webbing is impeded.

[0021] ~~A vehicle recited in claim 20 comprises the webbing retractor of any one of claims 1 through 6.~~

Effects of the Invention:

Please amend paragraphs [0026] through [0028] on page 6 as follows:

[0026] A spool 18 (take-up shaft), which ~~structures~~ accommodates a force limiter mechanism, is supported so as to be freely rotatable between the one side wall and the other side wall of the frame 12. An elongated, belt-shaped webbing 20 is taken-up on the spool 18. A solid-cylindrical shaft 22 provided at the proximal end of the webbing 20 is anchored to the spool 18. A vicinity of the proximal end of the webbing 20 is inserted-through the spool 18. In this way, the webbing 20 is anchored to the spool 18. Further, in a vicinity of the portion which is taken-up on the spool 18, the webbing 20 is inserted-through the aforementioned insert-through hole 16. The webbing 20 is applied to an occupant of the vehicle. The webbing 20 is taken-up due to the spool 18 being rotated in a take-up direction. On the other hand, the webbing 20 is pulled-out due to the spool 18 being rotated in a pull-out direction.

[0027] A torsion shaft 24 (energy absorbing member), which ~~structures~~ comprises the force limiter mechanism and a maintaining component, is disposed at the central axis portion of the spool 18. The torsion shaft 24 can torsionally deform due to the application of a torsional load of a predetermined load or more. The other side end of the torsion shaft 24 is anchored to the other side end of the spool 18. The torsion shaft 24 rotates integrally with the spool 18.

[0028] A lock gear 26, which serves as a rotating member ~~structuring~~ of the force limiter mechanism, is provided at the one side of the spool 18. The lock gear 26 is anchored at a vicinity of the one side end of the torsion shaft 24. The lock gear 26 rotates integrally

with the torsion shaft 24 and the spool 18 at times other than when the torsion shaft 24 is torsionally deformed.

Please amend paragraphs [0059] through [0060] on pages 14-15 as follows:

[0059] The lock plate 74 of the lock member 72 is the engaging member which ~~structures~~ forms the maintaining component. In a vicinity of one end, the lock plate 74 is supported so as to be freely rotatable at the lower portion of the gear case 60. The lock plate 74 is disposed at a non-meshable position (non-engageable position) at the side opposite the lock gear 26. The lock plate 74 is in a non-meshable state (non-engageable state) in which the lock teeth 76 of the other end of the lock plate 74 cannot mesh (engage) with the ratchet teeth 28 of the lock gear 26.

[0060] The lock stopper 86 ~~structures~~ forms a moving/urging member. One end of a coil spring 102, which structures the moving/urging member, is fixed to the take-up direction side end of the lock stopper 86. The coil spring 102 is in the state of its natural length at which it does not apply urging force. The other end of the coil spring 102 extends toward the one end of the lock plate 74.